

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:158

ANSWERED ON:02.02.2017

Suspension of Toll Collection

Reddy Shri Mekapati Rajamohan;Venkatesh Babu Shri T.G.

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has waived National Highway toll for few days in the wake of demonetisation, if so, the details thereof including the revenue losses incurred;
- (b) whether the Government has taken/proposed to take any steps to make up the losses and to help the commuters in facilitating toll payment and ensuring easy flow of traffic at the toll gates;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the amount paid by the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) to each National Highway (NH) private operators to compensate the toll revenue loss they incurred due to suspension of the said toll from the afternoon of November 9th, 2016 to December 2nd, 2016, and
- (e) whether the Government has received any complaints from private operators for inadequate compensation and if so, the details thereof along with the action taken thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN)

(a) Yes, Madam. Post demonetization of currency notes of 500/- and 1000/-, Government suspended the user fee collection on National Highways w.e.f. 09.11.2016 (17:30 hrs.) to 02.12.2016 (midnight). The average toll collection per day is Rs. 51.59 crores from the fee plazas under National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), which did not accrue to the Government w.e.f. 09.11.2016 (17:30 hrs.).

(b) & (c) Government has notified the use of pre-paid payment instruments vide Notification G.S.R 1114 (E) dated 02.12.2016 for collection of user fee from road users. This is to permit road users to opt for available cashless modes of payment. NHAI has facilitated the Concessionaire/Contractor to use POS machines for collection of user fees through credit & debit card. Further, Electronic Fee Collection (EFC) system has been rolled out w.e.f. 25.04.2016. As on today, 350 no. of fee plazas out of 372 NHAI's fee plazas across the country has been integrated and made operational for EFC transaction.

(d) & (e) The Government is in the process of compensating developers/Concessionaires of BOT (Toll) and OMT projects for the revenue loss from foregone toll collections during the period of 23.27 days (i.e. from 17:30 hrs. of 09/11/2016 till 24:00 hrs. of 02/12/2016).
